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(d) contacting the probe assay article with the target polypeptide, or contacting the target assay article with the probe polypeptide under a condition that allows the formation of a complex comprising the probe and the target polypeptides; and

(e) detecting and determining the presence of the complex as a measurement for the presence or the amount of the target polypeptide contained in the sample.

68. (Amended) The method of claim 64, wherein the amount of the probe polypeptide or the target polypeptide contacted with the substrate in step (c) ranges from about 10^{-20} to about 10^{-14} moles.

69. (Amended) The method of claim 64, wherein the aliquot is from about 0.1 nL to about 500 nL.

70. (Amended) The method of claim 64, wherein the drying is air-drying conducted for a period ranging from about 5 minutes to about 60 minutes.

REMARKS:

Claim 67 is cancelled without prejudice. Claims 64 and 68-70 are amended; marked up versions of the amended claim is attached hereto pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii). Claims 29-42, 55-66 and 68-70 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claim 56 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not sufficiently described in the specification. In particular, the Examiner appears to believe that there is no support in the specification that the probe biopolymer or the target biopolymer is modified. This rejection is respectfully traversed.